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I CLAIM:

1. An evaporator comprising:
  - a housing adapted to receive a bottle with a wick protruding therefrom;
  - an electrical plug assembly coupled to said housing for supporting the evaporator in a wall outlet;
  - a heating device disposed within said housing in electrical communication with said electrical plug assembly; and
  - an adjuster disposed in said housing and adapted to adjust a spacing of the wick relative to said heating device, said adjuster including a retaining mechanism that retains said adjuster in one of a plurality of discreet adjustment settings.
2. An evaporator according to claim 1, further comprising a bottle containing a substance to be evaporated, and a wick having a lower portion disposed in the substance in said bottle and an upper portion protruding from said bottle.
3. An evaporator according to claim 2, wherein said bottle and said wick are detachably received by said housing.
4. An evaporator according to claim 1, said retaining mechanism comprising a retaining dog which is biased downward and rides against said housing to retain said adjuster in a desired one of said plurality of discrete adjustment settings.

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5. An evaporator according to claim 4, said retaining mechanism further comprising a cantilever arm, which biases said retaining dog downward to ride against said housing.
6. An evaporator according to claim 5, said housing including a serrated adjustment surface against which said retaining dog is biased, said serrated adjustment surface having a plurality of peaks and valleys, each valley defining one of said plurality of discrete settings of said adjuster.
7. An evaporator according to claim 6, said retaining dog being rigid and said cantilever arm being flexible to allow said retaining dog to move up over each of said plurality of peaks and down into each of said plurality of valleys while riding along said serrated adjustment surface of said housing.
8. An evaporator according to claim 6, wherein rotation of said adjuster causes a ratcheting sound and feel as said retaining dog rides along said serrated surface of said housing, whereby the user can sense movement of the adjuster between each of said plurality of discrete settings by both auditory and tactile perception.
9. An evaporator according to claim 4, said adjuster further comprising a hollow cylindrical portion adapted to receive the upper portion of the wick.
10. An evaporator according to claim 9, said adjuster further comprising a dial portion for rotating said hollow cylindrical portion about an axis of rotation.

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- 11: An evaporator according to claim 10, wherein said dial portion is formed integrally with said hollow cylindrical portion.
12. An evaporator according to claim 9, wherein said hollow cylindrical portion is rotatable through a range of rotation of about 180 degrees.
13. An evaporator according to claim 9, wherein said hollow cylindrical portion defines an opening through which the wick extends, and the center of the opening being offset relative to the axis of rotation of said hollow cylindrical portion.
14. An evaporator according to claim 1, said adjuster further comprising a hollow cylindrical portion adapted to receive the upper portion of the wick, and a dial portion formed integrally with said hollow cylindrical portion for rotating said hollow cylindrical portion about an axis of rotation, and  
said retaining mechanism comprising a retaining dog which is biased into contact with a serrated adjustment surface of said housing to retain said adjuster in the desired one of said plurality of adjustment settings, said serrated adjustment surface having a plurality of peaks and valleys, each valley defining one of said plurality of discrete settings of said adjuster.
15. An evaporator comprising:  
a housing adapted to receive a bottle with a wick protruding therefrom;  
a heating device disposed within said housing and adapted to apply heat to the wick; and

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an electrical plug assembly, including a plug deck, coupled to said housing for supporting the evaporator in a wall outlet and supplying power to said heating device, said plug deck being rotatable in order to support the evaporator in an upright position in both horizontal and vertical wall outlets, and said plug deck including a locking mechanism which retains said plug deck in one of a plurality of discrete positions relative to said housing; and

an adjuster disposed within said housing and adapted to adjust a spacing of the wick relative to said heating device, said adjuster including a retaining mechanism that retains said adjuster in one of a plurality of discrete adjustment settings.

16. An evaporator according to claim 15, said adjuster further comprising a hollow cylindrical portion adapted to receive the upper portion of the wick, and a dial portion formed integrally with said hollow cylindrical portion for rotating said hollow cylindrical portion about an axis of rotation, and

said retaining mechanism comprising a retaining dog which is biased into contact with a serrated adjustment surface of said housing to retain said adjuster in the desired one of said plurality of adjustment settings, said serrated adjustment surface having a plurality of peaks and valleys, each valley defining one of said plurality of discrete settings of said adjuster.

17. An evaporator according to claim 16, said locking mechanism comprising at least one protrusion formed on said housing, which engages at least one protrusion formed on said plug deck to lock said plug deck in one of the plurality of discrete positions, and

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said plug deck further comprising a left stop face for limiting rotation of said plug deck in the counter-clockwise direction and a right stop face for limiting rotation of said plug deck in the clockwise direction.